

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 93, wherein said housing comprises a ~~lateral surface~~ first and second lateral surfaces, said first lateral surface is more that is most proximate the cochlea than said second lateral surface when said housing is in said first ~~implant~~ implanted orientation, and ~~wherein~~ said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to said first lateral surface of said housing.

42. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 93, wherein said housing comprises a ~~lateral surface~~ first and second lateral surfaces, said first lateral surface is more that is most proximate the cochlea than said second lateral surface when said housing is in said first ~~implant~~ implanted orientation, and ~~wherein~~ said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to a surface of said housing that is adjacent said first lateral surface most proximate the cochlea.

43. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 92, wherein said housing is at least partially formed from a resiliently flexible material.

44. (Previously Presented) The implantable component of claim 43, wherein a region adjacent one or more edges of said housing is resiliently deformable.

45. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 92, wherein said housing is substantially symmetrical about a plane that is parallel to said lateral axis a longitudinal axis of said first region.

46. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 92, wherein said housing is substantially symmetrical about a plane that is perpendicular to said lateral axis a ~~longitudinal axis of said first region~~.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 92, wherein said cochlear implant system comprises an external component, and wherein said ~~receiver electronics~~ receiver coil is configured to receive signals from ~~said external~~ an external component of said cochlear implant system via a radio frequency link.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of claim 48, wherein said receiver coil ~~receiver electronics configured to receive signals~~ is further configured to allow transcutaneous bidirectional data transfer between said implantable component and said external component.

51. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 92, wherein said cochlear implant system ~~further~~ comprises an external component having a microphone configured to receive an input sound, and ~~wherein said stimulator electronics comprise:~~ a signal processor configured to convert the input sound into a coded signal, and wherein the receiver/stimulator package is ~~signal; and a stimulator unit~~ configured to convert said coded signal into said one or more stimulation signals.

52. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 39~~ claim 92, wherein said implantable component further comprises a second electrode assembly having contiguous first and second ~~longitudinally extending contiguous~~ regions, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to said housing, and wherein said second region of said second electrode assembly comprises one or more electrodes configured to be positioned in the recipient external to the cochlea.

53. (Previously Presented) The implantable component of claim 52, wherein said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to a first lateral surface of said housing, and wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to a second lateral surface of said housing opposing said first region of said first electrode assembly.

54. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of claim 53, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is substantially aligned along the lateral axis ~~same axis as said first region of said first electrode assembly~~.

55-56. (Cancelled)

57. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 95, wherein said housing comprises a ~~lateral surface~~ first and second lateral surface, said first lateral surface is more proximate the cochlea than said second lateral surface when said housing is in said first ~~implant~~ implanted orientation, and ~~wherein~~ the first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to said first lateral surface of said housing most proximate the cochlea.

58. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 95, wherein said housing comprises a ~~lateral surface that is most~~ first and second lateral surface, said first lateral surface is more proximate the cochlea than said second lateral surface when said housing is in said first ~~implant~~ implanted orientation, and ~~wherein~~ said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to a surface of said housing that is adjacent said first lateral surface most proximate the cochlea.

59. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 94, wherein said housing is at least partially formed from a resiliently flexible material.

60. (Currently Amended) The implantable component ~~cochlear implant system~~ of claim 59, wherein a region adjacent one or more edges of said housing is resiliently deformable.

61. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 94, wherein said housing is substantially symmetrical about a plane that is parallel to a longitudinal said lateral axis of said first region.

62. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 94, wherein said housing is substantially symmetrical about a plane that is perpendicular to a longitudinal said lateral axis of said first region.

63. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 94, wherein said external component further comprises:
a microphone configured to receive an input sound; and
a signal processor configured to convert the input sound into a coded signal,
wherein said transmitter coil is configured to transmit said coded signal to said receiver coil.

64. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 63, wherein said ~~stimulator electronics further comprise a stimulator unit receiver/stimulator package~~ is configured to output one or more stimulation signals based upon said coded signals, and wherein said second region of first electrode assembly is configured to deliver stimulation to the cochlea in accordance with said one or more stimulation signals.

65. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 94, wherein said receiver coil and said transmitter coil are further configured for transcutaneous bidirectional data transfer between said implantable component and said external component.

66. (Cancelled)

67. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system of claim 55~~ implantable component of claim 94, wherein said implantable component further comprises a second electrode assembly having contiguous first and second ~~longitudinally extending contiguous~~ regions, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to said housing, and wherein said second region of said second electrode assembly comprises one or more electrodes configured to be positioned in the recipient external to the cochlea.

68. (Currently Amended) The implantable component ~~cochlear implant system~~ of claim 67, wherein said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to a first lateral surface of said housing, and wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to a second lateral surface of said housing opposing said first region of said first electrode assembly.

69. (Currently Amended) The ~~cochlear implant system~~ implantable component of claim 68, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is substantially aligned along the lateral axis ~~same axis as said first region of said first electrode assembly~~.

70-79. (Canceled)

80. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 79~~ claim 97, wherein a region adjacent one or more edges of said housing is resiliently deformable.

81. (Cancelled)

82. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 78~~ claim 97, wherein said implantable component further comprises a second electrode assembly having contiguous first and second ~~longitudinally extending contiguous~~ regions, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to said housing, and wherein said second region of said second electrode assembly comprises one or more electrodes configured to be positioned in the recipient external to the cochlea.

83. (Previously Presented) The implantable component of claim 82, wherein said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to a first lateral surface of said housing, and wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to a second lateral surface of said housing opposing said first region of said first electrode assembly.

84. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of claim 83, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is substantially aligned along the lateral axis ~~same axis as said first region of said first electrode assembly~~.

85-86. (Cancelled)

87. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 86~~ claim 99, wherein a region adjacent one or more edges of said housing is resiliently deformable.

88. (Cancelled)

89. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of ~~claim 85~~ claim 99, wherein said implantable component further comprises a second electrode assembly having contiguous first and second ~~longitudinally extending contiguous~~ regions, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to said housing, and wherein said second region of said second electrode assembly comprises one or more electrodes configured to be positioned in the recipient external to the cochlea.

90. (Previously Presented) The implantable component of claim 89, wherein said first region of said first electrode assembly is connected to a first lateral surface of said housing, and wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is connected to a second lateral surface of said housing opposing said first region of said first electrode assembly.

91. (Currently Amended) The implantable component of claim 90, wherein said first region of said second electrode assembly is substantially aligned along the lateral axis ~~same axis as said first region of said first electrode assembly~~.

92. (New) An implantable component of a cochlear implant system comprising:

a housing configured to be implanted in a recipient and having therein a receiver coil and a receiver/stimulator package substantially aligned along a longitudinal axis, wherein the receiver/stimulator package is configured to output stimulation signals; and

a first electrode assembly having contiguous first and second regions, wherein the first region extends from the housing along a lateral axis substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, wherein the lateral axis extends through the housing between a center of the receiver coil and a center of the receiver/stimulator package, and wherein the second region is configured to be at least partially implanted in a cochlea of the recipient,

wherein the housing and the first region are configured such that, when the second region is disposed in the cochlea, the housing is rotatable about a rotational axis substantially parallel with the lateral axis, and wherein the housing is rotatable such that the second region remains substantially stationary during the rotation.

93. (New) The implantable component of claim 92, wherein the housing is rotatable between a first implanted orientation in which the receiver/stimulator package is disposed closer to an outer ear of the recipient than is the receiver coil, and a second implanted orientation in which the receiver coil is disposed closer to the outer ear than is the receiver/stimulator package.

94. (New) An implantable component of a cochlear implant system comprising:

a housing configured to be implanted in a recipient and having therein a receiver coil and a receiver/stimulator package substantially aligned along a longitudinal axis, wherein the receiver/stimulator package is configured to output stimulation signals; and

a first electrode assembly having contiguous first and second regions, wherein the first region extends from the housing along a lateral axis substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, wherein the lateral axis extends through the housing between the receiver coil and the receiver/stimulator package, and wherein the second region is configured to be at least partially implanted in a cochlea of the recipient,

wherein the housing and the first region are configured such that, when the second region is disposed in the cochlea, the housing is rotatable about a rotational axis substantially parallel with the lateral axis, and wherein the housing is rotatable such that the second region remains substantially stationary during the rotation.

95. (New) The implantable component of claim 94, wherein the housing is rotatable between a first implanted orientation in which the receiver/stimulator package is disposed closer to an outer ear of the recipient than is the receiver coil, and a second implanted orientation in which the receiver coil is disposed closer to the outer ear than is the receiver/stimulator package.

96. (New) The implantable component of claim 95, wherein said housing is configured to rotate approximately 180 degrees when rotated from the first implant orientation to the second implant orientation.

97. (New) An implantable component of a cochlear implant system comprising:

a housing configured to be implanted in a recipient and having therein a receiver coil and a receiver/stimulator package substantially aligned along a longitudinal axis, wherein the receiver/stimulator package is configured to output stimulation signals; and

a first electrode assembly having contiguous first and second regions, wherein the first region extends from the housing along a lateral axis substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis and intersecting the longitudinal axis at a position substantially in the middle of the housing, and wherein the second region is configured to be at least partially implanted in a cochlea of the recipient to deliver the stimulation signals to the cochlea,

wherein the housing and the first region are configured such that, when the second region is disposed in the cochlea, the housing is rotatable about a rotational axis substantially parallel with the lateral axis, and wherein the housing is rotatable such that the second region remains substantially stationary during the rotation.

98. (New) The implantable component of claim 97, wherein the housing is rotatable between a first implanted orientation in which the receiver/stimulator package is disposed closer to an outer ear of the recipient than is the receiver coil, and a second implanted orientation in which the receiver coil is disposed closer to the outer ear than is the receiver/stimulator package.

99. (New) An implantable component of a cochlear implant system comprising:

a housing configured to be implanted in a recipient and having therein a receiver coil and a receiver/stimulator package substantially aligned along a longitudinal axis, wherein the receiver/stimulator package configured to output stimulation signals; and

a first electrode assembly having contiguous first and second regions, wherein the first region extends from the housing along a lateral axis substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, and wherein the second region is configured to be at least partially implanted into a cochlea of the recipient to deliver the stimulation signals to the cochlea, wherein a first length of the housing along the longitudinal axis is greater than a second length of the housing along the lateral axis,

wherein the housing and the first region are configured such that, when the second region is disposed in the cochlea, the housing is rotatable about a rotational axis substantially parallel with the lateral axis, and wherein the housing is rotatable such that the second region remains substantially stationary during the rotation.

100. (New) The implantable component of claim 99, wherein the housing is rotatable between a first implanted orientation in which the receiver/stimulator package is disposed closer to an outer ear of the recipient than is the receiver coil, and a second implanted orientation in which the receiver coil is disposed closer to the outer ear than is the receiver/stimulator package.